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ARREST 80-YEAR OLD MAN FOR MOLESTING GIRL, 8

Real-Life Detective Thriller Enacted in City Coffee Shop

Charged With Sex Advances

A real-life detective story that out-thrills the best of TV's detective thrillers was enacted in Torrance Tuesday night.

The story, like all stories, has a background: Police from San Francisco to San Diego have been on the watch for a pair of thieves who have been tapping the cash registers in restaurants up and down the coast for years. Hundreds, "perhaps thousands" such restaurants have

been tapped by two men who have perfected a technique and routine.

MODE OF OPERATION

Their mode of operation is: Both men enter a restaurant, one seats himself at the counter, near the cash register, and unfolds a newspaper which he starts to read while drinking a cup of coffee. The second man orders two hamburgers to go and stands right beside the cash register waiting for delivery of his order.

several hours one day. But they had determined the routine of the two thieves, and merely returned to their homes. In the morning, between 8:30 and 8:45 a.m., the men left to go to "work."

On Tuesday, the two thieves started their rounds in the valley. Then they went into central Los Angeles, ordered hamburgers and coffee and walked out with between \$60 and \$70 from the cash register at the Embassy restaurant.

They headed south along Manchester blvd., stopped at a Chinese restaurant, and then went shopping in Inglewood, where they shopped some items from a department store.

COME TO TORRANCE

They roamed into Hermosa and Redondo Beaches, Palos Verdes and San Pedro, and then came into Torrance.

They stopped for their usual coffee and hamburgers to go at the Bowl-O-Drome coffee shop, at 220nd st. and Western ave. Detectives Zumel and Brown watched the pair go through their old routine, saw Deninno take money from the cash register while Riley read his paper and sipped his coffee.

Then the detectives followed the pair out, arrested them, and brought an end to the story of the till-tappers.

Alex Schrieber, manager of the Bowl-O-Drome, reported that the men had removed \$52 from the cash register. Another Bowl-O-Drome employe, who watched the drama unfolding, said "that was the slickest job of robbing a till I've ever seen."

An 80-year old North Torrance resident was arrested and held in jail by Torrance police Tuesday for molesting an eight-year old girl.

The man, Amelio Uva, of 3705 West 190th st., was charged with making sexual advances to the girl in his home.

Juvenile Officer H. B. "Buck" Ingram made the arrest after parents of the child complained to police. After questioning Uva, police said the 80-year old man had admitted undressing the child and making lewd advances.

Lt. D. C. Cook, head of the Juvenile Bureau, said Uva would be arraigned in South Bay Municipal Court Thursday on charges of making lewd and lascivious conduct with a minor.

Boy, Hurt by Auto, Improves

The condition of Clifton Reed, 5½ year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton W. Reed, of 331 Via San Sebastian, who was critically injured when struck by a car last week was reported improving at Harbor General Hospital.



CHRISTMAS CHEER is being spread by George Clay, of 1115 Fonthill ave., shown leaning on the simulated fireplace he built on his front lawn. With him are neighbors and friends putting the finishing touches to the

Christmas decoration. Clay attached the arm of Santa Claus to an old record player. Every revolution of the player makes Santa's arm wave. Hundreds of other residents are decorating their homes to impart the holiday spirit.

Name Group To Pass On 'Girlie' Magazines

A committee of nine to pass on the contents of so-called "girlie" and "peep" magazines found on Torrance news stands was named at the City Council meeting Tuesday night.

One additional member was to be appointed before the committee was to start on its job of reviewing the magazines.

Town Topics

TORRANCE'S Santa Claus came into the office with an unusual request this week. He asked the Press to publicize his appeal for 200 small boxes of talcum powder which he intends to distribute to patients at Harbor General hospital next week. Those readers who would like to help were asked to leave their boxes of powder in Santa's name at the Chamber of Commerce office, 1345 El Prado.

TWO HEARTRENDING APPEALS for help also came into the Torrance Press office during the week. Neighbors of two city families wrote and told us that the families, in dire financial straits, would not be having much of a Christmas this year. The breadwinners of both families—one of nine children, and the second of eight children—are both unemployed. Church, civic and social groups who desire to spread Christmas cheer for the children and lighten the burden of their fathers and mothers can contact the Press for further information.

THE GREAT TLE MYSTERY was cleared up. Alvin Decker, of 18931 Felbar ave., who reported to police that someone walked into his house and removed all the tile on the floor of his shower, called police the next day. He informed police officers that the real estate firm handling his house had removed the tiles as their first step in repairing the shower. Decker had not been told the tiles were to go when they did. Closer liaison has since been established between Decker and the real estate company.

TORRANCE POLICE warned residents of a new kind of racket being practiced by gyp artists roving the area. Salesmen passing themselves off as "roofing specialists" inveigle residents to have a waterproof compound applied to their roofs at a cut rate price. The compound lasts until the first rain, as some Torrance residents have discovered. One such "company" calling itself the "Boswell Company" of Long Beach is now being prosecuted by the District Attorney's office. Residents are advised to call police if any such salesman knock on their doors.

A BLIND TORRANCE BOY will not be able to go to a Christmas party being conducted for other blind youngsters this Saturday unless some Torrance resident steps forward and volunteers to drive the youngster to the party in Los Angeles. The boy's father is working on that day and is unable to provide transportation. Workers at the Foundation for the Junior Blind asked the Press to issue a call for one volunteer to take the boy to the party to be held at 4005 Wilshire blvd. in Los Angeles. Volunteers are asked to contact the Press.



H. L. "Roy" Burns

H. L. Burns, Union Carbide Official, Dies

H. L. (Roy) Burns, 58-year-old industrial relations manager of the Union Carbide co. plant in Torrance, passed away Sunday night, December 8.

Burns, born in New Haven, Conn., May 13, 1899, attended college in Springfield, Conn., where he received a degree in physical education. His career with Union Carbide co. began on June 18, 1934, in the South Charleston, W. Va., plant, where he held various jobs in the industrial relations department.

He assumed the position as head of the company's industrial relations department in Torrance when he transferred here in 1955.

Survivors include his widow, Evelyn, a daughter, Elizabeth, both residing at the family home, 2836 Palos Verdes drive west, and two sons, Robert and Edgar, who reside in Charleston, and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, 2 p.m., at the White and Day mortuary, 901 Torrance blvd., Redondo Beach.

The committee is to consist of five Torrance residents, selected by city councilmen, three area magazine distributors, and two representatives of Torrance merchants selling magazines.

Mayor Albert Isen and three councilmen announced their appointments to the committee Tuesday evening. Their selections were:

Councilman Willys Blount named Dr. Donald Cortum, of 333 Calle de Andelusis;

Councilman Victor Benstead appointed Frank Kristufek, of 2104 Martina;

Councilman Robert Jahn named Mrs. Donald Hauser, of 169 Paseo de las Delicias;

Mayor Isen appointed Rev. William Shatz, of 5342 Sharon lane.

Councilman Nick Draie said he would make his appointment in a few days.

Torrance merchants appoint-

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CITY TOPS CHEST GOAL

Torrance topped its quotas for the 1957-'58 Community Chest campaign, Jay A. Robinson, Harbor area campaign chairman announced this week.

Torrance raised \$19,938 or 100.26 per cent of its quota of \$19,887.

Rolling Hills was the first city over the top in the Harbor area. Volunteers there raised \$5,663 of a quota of \$5,630.

Palos Verdes raised 93.37 of a quota of \$2,676, and needs only \$512 to be 100 per cent.

Harbor City-Lomita with 91.70 per cent requires \$222 to meet their quota of \$2,676.

Wilmington will be 100 per cent with \$1,654 more in the till. They have raised \$9,511 per cent of a quota of \$15,773. San Pedro needs \$2,121 to be 100 per cent. It has 88.77 per cent of a quota of \$19,222.

With \$2,629 more the Harbor Area will meet its quota of \$36,858. It is now at 96.25 per cent. Robinson urges all residents of the Harbor Area if they have not made contributions to the Chest to mail them in to the campaign headquarters, 1025 So. Pacific ave., San Pedro.

Youth Band Needs \$612 More for Chicago Trip

The Torrance Area Youth Band issued a desperate last minute appeal to 612 residents this week.

If each of these residents contributed \$1 each, the band would have enough money to pay its way to the Chicago Band Clinic.

Mrs. Clara Conner, chairman of the citizen committee which has been collecting funds to assure the band's trip, made the appeal while band members scurried around town selling jars of

Christmas candy in an attempt to raise the needed funds.

The band is scheduled to leave for Chicago at the weekend—if the money can be raised.

"We have \$19,109.59 in contributions but need \$19,721.60 by the end of this week to assure us that all members of the band and some chaperones will be able to attend," Mrs. Conner declared. She asked that contributions be sent to Postmaster, Torrance.

City Council Election Campaign Starts Early

The city council jumped right into the election campaign Tuesday night, even though elections will not be held until April 8, 1958.

What started it all was a memorandum from City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier, who advised the council that, in his opinion, Mayor Albert Isen could be listed as an incumbent on the ballot.

With this designation, Mayor Isen would be listed on the ballot first.

Councilman Nick Draie, mentioned as a possible mayoralty candidate even though he has not officially announced his intentions, objected to Remelmeier's opinion. "Mr. Isen was elected as a councilman, not a mayor," Draie declared. He added that the opinion of an "impartial attorney" should be obtained.

"Don't you think the city attorney is impartial?" Councilman Victor Benstead asked sweetly.

Draie maintained that he was

not casting reflections on the city attorney's impartiality, but merely wanted the opinion of other attorneys with experience in interpreting the city charter.

Remelmeier cooled off the heated political waters into which the council waded. He applauded the idea of obtaining another opinion from the firm of O'Melveny & Myers, attorneys who had had a hand in drawing up the city charter.

The council voted unanimously to ask the law firm for their interpretation.

Remelmeier's memorandum also advised the council that the two bond propositions voted down in the special October 29 election could not reappear on the ballot April 8. Six months is required to pass before defeated bond propositions can be resubmitted to the voters.

The city attorney advised, however, that the bond propositions can be placed before the voters if 15 per cent of the electorate requests a new vote by an initiative petition.

City Garden Clubs to Help Decorate Float

Torrance definitely is to have a float in the Tournament of Roses Parade on January 1, President A. E. Thompson of the sponsoring Chamber of Commerce said today.

"Some people seem to doubt our ability to participate," the Chamber leader said, adding "but we now have a signed contract and the indicated support of the organizations, businessmen and citizens of Torrance."

A full \$1000 was shaved from the cost of Torrance's float by the announcement that members of the City's Garden and Womens' Clubs were volunteering to decorate the entry.

Chamber officials announced the appointment of Mrs. Victor E. Benstead as Decoration Chairman for the project.

"Almost every Garden and Womens' organization has asked to help" said Chairman George Bradford, who added that any adult Torrance resident could help if they desired. Residents are urged to call the Chamber office to be listed as volunteers.

The cost of the float was \$5500 but now will be \$4500 said Bradford.

Mrs. Benstead said her committee would meet with Float Designer Mrs. Isabella Coleman, on Tuesday, December 17 in Pasadena.

Torrance's entry in New Years Day Tournament of Roses Parade.

AWARD RECORD

Bradford said the chamber decided in favor of Mrs. Coleman because of her unequalled success in past parades. She has won 34 sweepstake awards and hundreds of division and theme prizes.

Bradford was quick to point out, however, that Torrance res-

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Ad Brings Quick Rental

A rolling stone gathers no moss, and a Torrance Classified ad gathers no dust.

That's what Eugene Capel, 2470 W. 25th st., Lomita discovered when his ad appeared, describing a two-bedroom house and garage for rent. Capel reported that he received at least 20 calls last Thursday, the day his ad appeared, and he rented his house without delay.

When you have a house or apartment to rent, sell or trade, for immediate results place an ad in the Torrance Press, read eagerly by residents in search of residences. Call FA. 8-2345.



WHATNIK, made by two Torrance men, is held gingerly by Mayor Albert Isen. E. B. Jones and Robert Shimmick, both of the Shimmick Brothers Towing and Salvage Co., 22704 S. Normandie blvd., worked for a week to make the Whatnik a special surprise gift for the mayor. The ficking, flashing whatnik was handed the Mayor during a recess at the City Council meeting Tuesday evening.

Remember, Torrance Stores Are Open Every Night Until Christmas